1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
26 Jan 53 27/0415Z	Continental Divide, New Mexico
3. SOURCE AF Personnel	**10. CONCLUSION** Astro (VENUS) (RADAR/VX)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 45 Min.	**11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS** Ball shaped, intermingling white, red, green, object, traveled slowly hovering at times at an estimated altitude of 10,000-12,000'. Manner of disappearance is similar to that of a light going out suddenly.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual Ground-Radar	
7. COURSE Not Reported	COMMENTS: 1. Object was seen visually and on AC/W radar scope. 2. Radiosonde weather balloon launched at 0300Z. 3. Speed of object on radar 12 to 15 mph. 4. Electronics opinion: weather probably caused radar return. 5. Weather info. from Ashevill N.C. needed before final conclusions can be made. This has been requested and not received as of 2 July, 1953.
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) **Previous editions of this form may be used.**

DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

UNCLASSIFIED

FILE NO.	SUBJECT
	(Uncl) Radar Sighting of Unidentified Aerial Object

TO ATIAE-2
Attn: Mr. James

FROM ATIAE-5

DATE 17 Mar 53

COMMENT NO. 1

R. Olsson
Lt Olsson/vs
65365/B 263/P A-30

1. Inclosed is a sighting of an unidentified aerial object from Continental Divide, New Mexico, 26 Jan 53. ATIAE-5 has come up with no solutions. We would appreciate the assistance of your office.

2. Inclosed radar information includes Electronics Data Sheet and radar maps.

Robert M. Olsson
for: EDWARD J. RUPPELT, Capt, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Section
Electronics Branch

1 Incl
File dtd 1/26/53

If inclosure / is withdrawn (or not attached), the classification of this correspondence will be downgraded to Uncl in accordance with paragraph 25b, AFR205-1.

INCIDENT NO. 6—On the night of January 26, 1953, a group of Air Force people stationed at a radar site in New Mexico observed a "very bright, reddish-white" object west of their station and then picked it up on their radar. The object was in view for 15 minutes both visually and by radar and once moved behind a hill and then reappeared. Radar showed it 9 miles from the station, traveling north at a lazy 12 to 15 knots, at 10,000 to 15,000 feet. Although a balloon was in the vicinity, the UFO traveled steadily almost directly into the wind.

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ARTICLE TRUE MAGAZINE

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2

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T53-3263

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 96 REPLACES NME FORM 96, 1 OCT 48, WHICH MAY BE USED. 16—54801-3 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 O - 906875

7-3719-27

[redacted]

Continental Divide, New Mexico 26 January 1953

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I. Description

On 26 January at 2115 MST Air Force personnel stationed at an AC&W station in this area observed an aerial phenomenon simultaneously by electronic and visual means. To the naked eye the object appeared as a very bright reddish-white object estimated to be ten miles west of the radar site. The object passed behind a hill and then reappeared apparently heading in a northerly direction and at slow speed. The airman making this visual observation reported it to personnel manning the radar equipment. They stated that they had an unidentified blip on the radar scope, appearing west of the station approximately nine miles away. The scope showed the object to be on a 270° azimuth at an altitude of 10-15,000 ft. moving away from the site at 12-15 mph. It was eventually lost on radar at the 18 mile range. The object was under visual and radar observeration intermittently for 45 minutes. The elevation of the station is 7,500 ft. above sea level.

Weather at the time was characterized by a high thin overcast and low scattered clouds. Winds aloft were from 270° at 30 knots at 10-30,000 ft. An atmospheric inversion layer existed at 18,000 ft. with the top at 21,000 ft.

II. Discussion

This is the most complete report ever received by ATIC on the sighting of an unidentified object. The intelligence officer of the 34th Air Division, ADC, is to be complimented on his initiative and complete coverage of all the angles bearing on the observation. Moreover, the combination visual-electronic sighting is the best type of sighting to work with because if affords the most information.

The intelligence officer preparing the report checked on weather balloon releases in the area of observation as a possible answer to the sighting. It was found that a nine ft. radiosonde balloon released from Winslow, Arizona, would offer the only possibility. The unknown object wes observed to move from east to west, against the prevailing winds aloft which rules out the balloon theory. Also the sighting time of 0415Z is one hour and 15 minutes after the Winslow release and by that time it is probable that the radiosonde had burst at altitude long before.

The fact that the object was detected on radar and seen visually for so long eliminates th e possibility of an astronomical solution such as a star or fireball especially if both radar and eye were seeing the same object. Since the object was tracked at 12 to 15 mph aircraft are eliminated as a possibility.

ATIC electronics specialists advanced the theory that the slow speed and large visual under size of the target make it appear that weather effects may be the cause of the electronic pick-up. The inversion layer at 18,000 ft. appears to

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[redacted] 4

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

be too high to effect the radar which was tracking the object at 10-15,000 ft. The weather effect explanation cannot, of course, account for the simultaneous visual sighting. There is a possibility which ATIC is now checking that the radar personnel may have been looking at the planet Venus, very low and bright on the western horizon at this time of year, and the radar possibly encountering the aforementioned weather interference at the same time. This would require a high ~~probability~~ of coincidence, however, and the radar and visual sightings seem to coincide too exactly to give much weight to the theory that both were observing different objects.

Two other items added to the completeness of this report. ATIC supplied the reporting intelligence officer with a USAF Technical Information Sheet or a visual questionnaire and an Electronics Data Sheet. Further analysis of this sighting awaits adiabatic charts for the date and area of sighting and until this information is received this report is carried in Project Blue Book's files as an unknown.

III. Conclusion:

VENUS

[redacted]

ANOMALOUS PROPAGATION

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: (Uncl) Radar Sighting of Unidentified Aerial Object 17 March 1953

TO: ATIAE-5 FROM: ATIAE-2 DATE: 20 Mar 53 COMMENT NO. 2

Mr. James/wh
65364/Bldg 263

1. It is not possible to give a firm opinion as to the nature of the unidentified target. However, due to the slow speed and large visual radar size of the target (visually - a grapefruit held at arm's length) weather conditions are suspected as the nature of the target. Additional weather information - temperature vs height - would be of value in determining the possibility of ice-laden clouds.

2. It is unfortunate that an interception was not attempted on this target as it was detected for forty-five minutes and moved slowly.

1 Incl
n/c

ROY L. JAMES
Chief, Radiation Section
Electronics Branch

Note: Asheville weather information requested in May 1953 - R.J.

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T53-3263

CBC993M

JWFRD 921

FP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JWPML 444

DE JWFRD 995

P 2823382

FM CG 34TH ADD KIRTLAND AFB N MEX

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTEL, HQ USAF WASHINGTON 25, DC

JEDWP/ATIC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO ATTN ATIAA-2C

INFO JEDEN/CG, ENT AFB, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

JWPML/CG WADF, ATTN: DIR OF INTEL, HAMILTON AFB HAMILTON, CALIF

[redacted]/OIN 0735 FLYOBRPT PD

(1) SHAPE CLN BALL PD COLOR CLN INTERMINGLING WHITE CMA BLOOD RED CMA GREEN PD NUMBER CLN ONE PD FORMATION CLN NEG PD AERODYNAMIC FEATURES CLN NEG PD TRAIL OR EXHAUST CLN NEG PD PROPULSION SYSTEM CLN UNK PD SPEED CLN SLOW TO HOVERING PD SOUND CLN NEG PD MANEUVERS CLN MOVED SPASMODICALLY OVER WIDE AREA PD MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE CLN VIS SIGHTING CLN LIKE A LIGHT TURNED OFF PD OBSERVED AT AN ALT OF 10,000 TO 12,000 FT 9 MILES W OF OBSERVATION POINT PD RADAR OBSERVATION CLN FADED PD OTHER FACTORS CLN OBJ WAS OBSERVED OUTSIDE OPR BLDG SIMULTANEOUS W/ RADAR SCOPE SIGHTING PD

(2) 2115 MST 26 JAN 53 CMA 769TH AC&W SQ CMA CONTINENTIAL DIVIDE N MEX PD

(3) RADAR AN VISUAL

(4) 769TH AC&W SQ CMA CONTINENTIAL DIVIDE CMA N MEX PD

(5) BOTH VISUAL AND ELECTRONIC OBSERVERS WERE AIR FORCE PERS PD OBSERVERS RELIABILITY CONSIDERED EXCELLENT PD

(6) WX CLEAR PD

(7) ,(8), (9) AND (10) ALL NEG PD END PD

28/2334Z JAN JWFRD

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

RF021V

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YDA011

WYD019

WHA021

1. Atea
2. Atea
3. C files

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

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SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO: CG [illegible] AIR DIV [illegible]

INFO:

DATE-TIME GROUP	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
032000Z FEB 53	[redacted]
PRECEDENCE FOR: ACTION: ROUTINE	INFORMATION
☐ BOOK MESSAGE	☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE
☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS	CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☒ NO
REFERS TO MESSAGE:	
IDENTIFICATION	CLASSIFICATION

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-2-2-3 FOR LT G. PARISH

With reference to your FLXCRFT of 26 Jan 53 regarding sighting of one unidentified aerial object, Project Blue Book requests that additional information be forwarded on AF Form 112 and Electronics Data Sheet. Believe you have data sheets on hand. Specific information requested includes the following:

(1) How long was the object seen both on radar and visually? = 45 min

(2) Is the estimate of altitude of 10,000 to 12,000 ft. a radar estimate or a visual one? = radar

(3) Check local weather balloon releases and include time of release and track and time of burst. = Winslow USAF pilot balloon at 0300 Z

(4) Include winds aloft at 2100 MST. = object was moving against wind!

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

Coordination:

_____

_____

_____

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SECURITY [redacted] PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)	RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE
LT R.H. OLSSON/vs	
SYMBOL ATIAE-3 / TELEPHONE 59260	OFFICIAL TITLE [illegible] AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173 REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48, WHICH MAY BE USED.

15—84933-4 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

More than one.

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NBR 2561
C-1 ROUTINE [redacted] ON 1953 FEB 10 13:55 CONTINENTAL DIVISION

24 & 26/2115 MST

24 & 26 Jan
3. Atic
HQ. files

TO ATIC WPAFB OHIO

OINC-055

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

JM

ATTN: ATIAA-2C PROJECT BLUEBOOK. URMSG AFOIN-ATIAE-2-2-E, THE FOL INFO IS SUBMITTED: AF FORM 112 AND ELECTRONICS DATA SHEET BEING FWD THRU CHANNELS. (1) LGTH OF OBSERVATION: RADAR, 2115 INTERMITTENTLY TO 2200 MST 26 JAN 53; VISUALLY, 2115 TO 2200 MST 26 JAN 53 (2) ALTITUDE: RADAR, 10 TO 14000 FT MSL EST; VISUALLY, 10 TO 12000 FT MSL EST. (3) WEATHER BALLOONS RELS AT FOL PTS AT 0300Z 27 JAN 53: PHOENIX, ARIZ; WINSLOW, ARIZ; DENVER, COLO; ALBUQUERQUE, NMEX; WHITESANDS, NMEX; LAS VEGAS, NEV; BIG SPRINGS, TEX; EL PASO, TEX. DUE TO DIR OF WINDS ALOFT THE ONLY LIKELY BALLOON TO BE IN VICINITY OF SIGHTING IS BALLOON RELS AT WINSLOW, ARIZ BALLOONS ARE APRX 5 FT IN DIAM W/FLASH LIGHT ATCHMT SUSPENDED FR BASE BY WAXED LINED CORD. ALT OF BURST IS APRX 30000 FT MSL (4) WINDS FR 270 DEG AT 30 KNS AT 30000 FT. INVERSION EXISTED AT 18000 FT W/TOP AT 21000 FT MSL. DIR OF MV OF OBJ BOTH VISUALLY AND RADAR WAS FR EAST TO WEST. AGAINST THE WIND MV OF OBJ RULES OUT PROBABILITY OF OBJ BEING BALLOON. RADAR SET WAS ON LOW RANGE. RADAR SET CAPABLE OF DETECTING MV [redacted] ABOVE 6 MPH. SPEED OF OBJ 12 TO 15 MPH

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

8 753-1677-1

AF FORM 112
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
UNITED STATES	IR-1-53W	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT		
Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting (FLYOBRPT)		
AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)	
Continental Divide, New Mexico	34th Air Division (Defense) Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico	
DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
10 February 1953	26 January 1953	B-1
PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE	
GLEN D PARRISH, 1st Lt., USAF	R.L. Welch, A/1c, USAF; J.G. Dennis, A/1c, USAF; R.E. Larson, A/3c, USAF	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)		
AFL 200-5, dated 29 April 1952		

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 113—Part II.)

SUBJECT: FLYOBRPT

In accordance with AFL 200-5, dated 29 April 1952, Subject: Unidentified Flying Objects Reporting (Short Title: FLYOBRPT), the following report of Unidentified Flying Objects is submitted:

On 26 January 1953, at 2115 MST, A/1c J.G. Dennis, stationed at 769th AC&W Sq, Continental Divide, New Mexico, while on duty in the operations building, observed an aerial phenomenon as he stood outside the rear entrance door to the building. The object appeared as a very bright reddish-white object approximately ten miles west of the radar site. The object passed behind a hill and reappeared apparently heading in a northerly direction at a very slow speed (est 10-15 MPH). Airman Dennis reported this sighting to his crew chief, A/1c R.L. Welch, upon entering the operations building. Airman Welch and A/3c R.E. Larson informed Airman Dennis that they had an unidentified blip on the radar scope, painting west of the station about 9 miles away. The blip was appearing intermittently, moving slowly westward then turning to a northerly heading outbound from the radar site. Airman Welch went outside of the building to determine if the object was visible. He saw the object west-north-west of the site, 10-12 miles away moving slowly northward. The bright object appeared oval in shape, and apparently changed color from a very bright white to a dull, almost blood-like red. The object seemed to diminish in brightness and size before it faded from view. Airman Welch returned to the scope to observe the phenomenon. Welch made several trips outside to view the object visually during the period of radar observation. The object was under visual and radar observation intermittently for forty five minutes. No other radar station observed a similar sighting. The object was visually estimated to be 2,000 feet above the terrain. The radar estimate was 10-15,000 feet above MSL. The elevation of the 769th AC&W Sq is approximately 7,500 feet above MSL.

APPROVED:

4 INCLS
1. USAF Tech Info Sheet (Welch)
2. USAF Tech Info Sheet (Dennis)
3. Radar Obs Sheet, ADC Form 123
4. Radar Plot (Map overlay)

Glen D Parrish
GLEN D PARRISH
1st Lt., USAF
Director of Intelligence

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

TO: Commanding General
Western Air Defense Force
ATTN: Director of Intelligence
Hamilton Air Force Base, California

TS-2556

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U.S.C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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10—55009-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	
34th Air Division (Defense)	IR-1-53W	PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

(1) Shape: Radar Blip
Size: Larger and brighter than average aircraft blip.
Color: N/A
Speed: Estimated 12-15 MPH, variable.
Number: One
Formation: Negative
Maneuvers: The object first appeared on the PPI scope on an azimuth of 270°, range 9 miles and altitude (est) 10-15,000 feet MSL.? The object moved outbound, speed 12-15 MPH (est), to a point approximately 18 miles west of the station. The object turned to a heading of 360° and covered approximately 10 miles on that heading. The object then turned to a heading of approximately 128° inbound to the station. Radar contact was lost near the area where the object was first detected.
Manner of Disappearance: Faded
Other Factors: Negative.

(2) 2115 MST, 26 January 1953. Length of Observation: 45 minutes (intermittently).

(3) Radar Scope (One PPI).

(4) Operations building, 769th AC&W Sq, Continental Divide, New Mexico.

(5) Observers reliability considered excellent.

(6) Weather: High thin overcast, lower scattered clouds. Winds from 270° at 30 knots at 10-30,000 feet MSL. Inversion existed at 18,000 feet MSL with top at 21,000 feet MSL.

(7), (8), (9) and (10) All negative. No a/c in vicinity, no meteorological conditions

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer: Negative.

COMMENTS of Approving Officer: Negative.

GLEN D PARRISH
1st Lt., USAF
Director of Intelligence

T53-2556

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES
34th Air Division (Defense)	IR-1-53W	

(1) Shape: Oval
Size: Like a large burning flare.
Color: White to white-red.
Speed: 12-15 MPH
Number: One
Formation: Negative
Maneuvers: Moved outbound westward then turned north for several minutes then disappeared while inbound toward observers.
Manner of Disappearance: Faded from view.
Other Factors: Negative

(2) 2115 MST, 26 January 1953. Length of Observation: 45 minutes (intermittently).

(3) Visual observation.

(4) Back entrance door to operations building, 769th AC&W Sq, Continental Divide, New Mexico.

(5) Observers reliability considered excellent (A/1c Dennis, A/1c Welch). ✓

(6) Weather: High thin overcast, lower scattered clouds. Winds from 270° at 30 knots at 10-30,000 feet MSL. Inversion existed at 18,000 feet MSL with top at 21,000 feet MSL.

(7) Object observed concurrently with radar observation. ✓ negative

(8), (9) and (10) All negative.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer: Negative.

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

Weather balloons are released daily at 0300Z (2000 MST) at points located near Phoenix, Ariz; Winslow, Ariz; Denver, Colo; Albuquerque, N Mex; White Sands, N Mex; Las Vegas, Nev; Big Springs, Tex; and El Paso, Tex. Winds aloft (10-30,000 ft.MSL) at the time of this observation were from 270° at 30 knots. Due to the direction of the winds aloft (about the same through Arizona and New Mexico) the only weather balloon likely to have been in the 769th AC&W Sq area would be the balloon released at Winslow Arizona one hour and fifteen minutes prior to the observation of the bright object. The balloon released at Winslow was approximately three feet in diameter at launching and expands to seven feet in diameter before bursting at 30,000 feet MSL. Leaking balloons are not uncommon and could conceively be carried some distance at low altitudes. Balloons released during the hours of darkness carry a flash light attachment. The flash light is standard size and is suspended from the balloon by a short length of waxed linen cord.

From the information given by the observers the object moved west then north for some time then southeast. If the winds given are correct this would mean the object moved against the wind, which is opposite the direction a free balloon would normally move. The balloon could not under normal circumstances be seen as a large

11

2556

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	
34th Air Division (Defense)	IR-1-53W	PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES

COMMENTS of Approving Officer: (continued)

bright object, from a distance of nine miles. Balloons of the type mentioned here are normally not detected by AC&W radar.

There is no known explaination for this observation.

GLEN D PARRISH
1st Lt., USAF
Director of Intelligence

IT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—
MENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW,
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16—55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

[redacted]

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Form A

U. S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U. S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes, and will be regarded as confidential material. Your name will *not* be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that, if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

26 (Day) January (Month) 1953 (Year)

2. Time of day: 21 (Hour) 15 (Minutes)

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time zone:

(Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
(c.) Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
(b.) Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Continental Divide (Nearest Postal Address) Continental Divide (City or Town) New Mexico (State or Country)

Additional remarks: I was standing in back of the operations building, 769th AC&W Sq. Continental Divide, New Mexico.

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ (Hours) 45 (Minutes) _____ (Seconds)

5.1 *Circle one* of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.

(a.) Certain
b. Fairly certain
c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

(Circle One): a. Bright daylight
b. Dull daylight
c. Bright twilight
d. Just a trace of daylight
(e.) No trace of daylight
f. Don't remember

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right
d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

[redacted]

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13

53-2506

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS *(Circle One)*:

(a.) None
b. A few
c. Many
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON *(Circle One)*:

a. Bright moonlight
(b.) Dull moonlight
c. No moonlight — pitch dark
d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle One): (a.) Yes b. No c. Don't remember

10. IF it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight?:

(Circle One) a. A mile or more away (a distant car)?
b. Several blocks away?
c. A block away?
(d.) Several yards away?
e. Other _____

11. Did the object: *(Circle One for each question)*

a. Appear to stand still at any time?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
c. Break up into parts or explode?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
d. Give off smoke?	Yes	No	(Don't Know)
e. Change brightness?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
f. Change shape?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know

12. Did the object move behind something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): (Yes) No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: A mountain obscured view momentarily.

13. Did the object move in front of something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): (Yes) No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, than tell what it moved in front of: In front of clouds at all time.

14. Did the object appear: *(Circle One)*: (a.) Solid? b. Transparent? c. Don't Know.

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

a. Eyeglasses	Yes	(No)	e. Binoculars	Yes	(No)
b. Sun glasses	Yes	(No)	f. Telescope	Yes	(No)
c. Windshield	Yes	(No)	g. Theodolite	Yes	(No)
d. Window glass	Yes	(No)	(h.) Other	Naked eye only.	

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound Could not detect any sound.

b. Color White, reddish white, bloodlike red.

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

18. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): (a.) Fuzzy or blurred
b. Like a bright star
c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember
e. Other _____

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____.
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.

21. IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension. _____ feet.

22. How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects *held in the hand* and at about arm's length?

(Circle One):

a. Head of a pin
b. Pea
c. Dime
d. Nickel
e. Quarter
f. Half dollar
g. Silver dollar
h. Baseball
i. Grapefruit
j. Basketball
(k) Other unknown

22.1 *(Circle One* of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 22.

a. Certain
(b) Fairly certain
c. Not very sure
d. Uncertain

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? On first sighting it dropped behind hills, on second sighting it faded from view.

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

A large flare would give the same effect on lighting but on second sighting a slow moving star like object would give the same effect.

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[redacted]

16

25. Where were you located when you saw the object? *(Circle One):*

a. Inside a building
b. In a car
(c.) Outdoors
d. In an airplane
e. At sea
f. Other _____

26. Were you *(Circle One)*

a. In the business section of a city?
b. In the residential section of a city?
c. In open countryside?
d. Flying near an airfield?
e. Flying over a city?
f. Flying over open country?
(g.) Other Military base

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

On duty in operations room. Man on way to operations first saw object.

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

28.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

29. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
(f.) Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
(g.) West
h. Northwest

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

31.1 When it first appeared:

a. From true North 270 degrees.
b. From horizon _____ degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

a. From true North 279 degrees.
b. From horizon _____ degrees.

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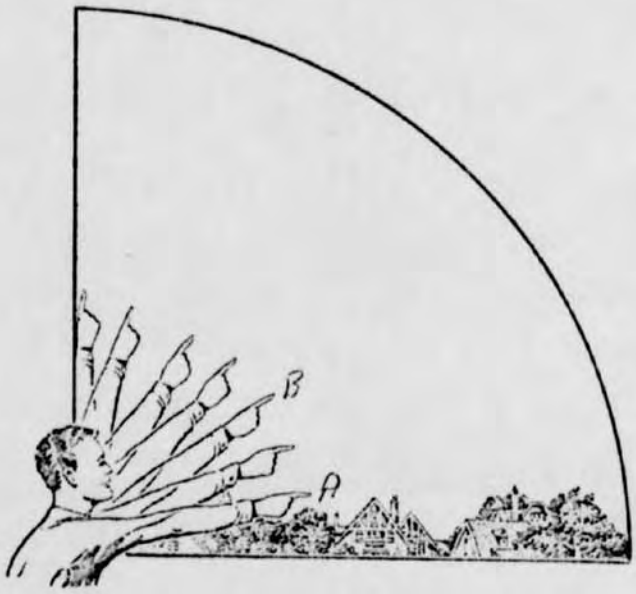
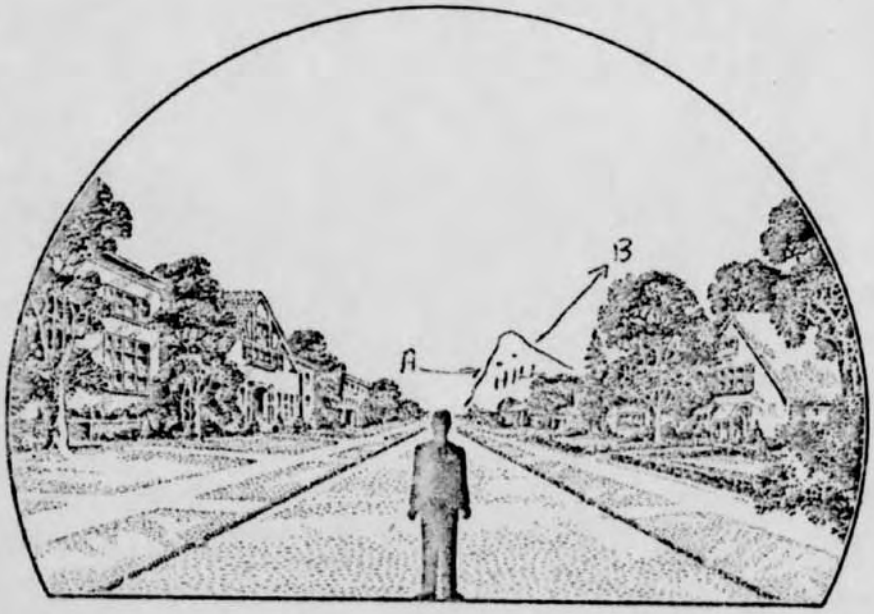
[redacted]

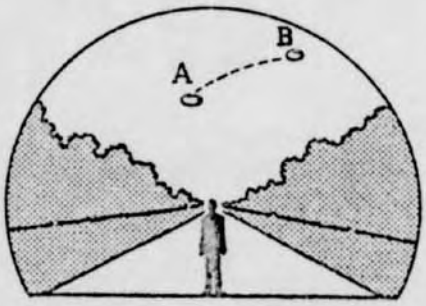
17

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the *same* curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you *first* saw it, and a "B" at its position when you *last* saw it. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.





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34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS *(Circle One)*

a. Clear sky
b. Hazy
(c) Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds
e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND *(Circle One)*

a. No wind
(b.) Slight breeze
c. Strong wind
d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER *(Circle One)*

(a.) Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

34.4 TEMPERATURE *(Circle One)*

a. Cold
(b.) Cool
c. Warm
d. Hot
e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

26 (Day) January (Month) 1953 (Year)

36. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.2 Please list their names and addresses:

[redacted]
Continental Divide, New Mexico

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this?

(Circle One) Yes (No)

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

Under almost the same conditions.

38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

I do not know.

39. Do you think you can estimate the *speed* of the object?

(Circle One) Yes (No)

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? _____ m.p.h.

40. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 9 miles feet.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME [redacted] (Last Name) [redacted] (First Name) [redacted] (Middle Name)

ADDRESS [redacted] (Street) Continental Divide (City) _____ (Zone) New Mexico (State)

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

What is your present job? Radar Operator

Age 23 Sex Male

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school 8 years
b. High school 4 years
c. College _____
d. Post graduate _____
e. e. Technical school _____
(Type) _____
f. Other special training 2 and ½ years OJT as radar operator.

42. Date you completed this questionnaire: 5 (Day) February (Month) 1953 (Year)

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Glen D Parrish

GLEN D PARRISH
1st Lt., USAF
AO 2067339

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

Form A

UNCLASSIFIED

U. S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U. S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes, and will be regarded as confidential material. Your name will *not* be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that, if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

26	January	1953
Day	Month	Year

2. Time of day: 21 (Hour) 15 (Minutes)

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time zone:

(Circle One):
a. Eastern
b. Central
(c.) Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One):
a. Daylight Saving
(b.) Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Continental Divide	Continental Divide	New Mexico
Nearest Postal Address	City or Town	State or Country

Additional remarks: _____

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ Hours 45 Minutes _____ Seconds

5.1 *Circle* one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.

a. Certain
(b.) Fairly certain
c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?

(Circle One):
a. Bright daylight
b. Dull daylight
c. Bright twilight
d. Just a trace of daylight
(e.) No trace of daylight
f. Don't remember

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One):
a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right
d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

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[redacted]

T53-2556

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS *(Circle One)*:

(a.) None
b. A few
c. Many
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON *(Circle One)*:

a. Bright moonlight
(b.) Dull moonlight
c. No moonlight — pitch dark
d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

(Circle One): (a.) Yes b. No c. Don't remember

10. IF it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight?:

(Circle One) a. A mile or more away (a distant car)?
(b.) Several blocks away?
c. A block away?
d. Several yards away?
e. Other _____

11. Did the object:

	(Circle One for each question)		
a. Appear to stand still at any time?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
c. Break up into parts or explode?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
d. Give off smoke?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
e. Change brightness?	(Yes)	No	Don't Know
f. Change shape?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know
g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate?	Yes	(No)	Don't Know

12. Did the object move behind something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): (Yes) No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: _____

The object dropped behind one of the hills.

13. Did the object move in front of something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes (No) Don't Know. IF you answered YES, than tell what it moved in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear: *(Circle One)*: (a.) Solid? b. Transparent? c. Don't Know.

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

a. Eyeglasses	Yes	(No)	e. Binoculars	Yes	(No)
b. Sun glasses	Yes	(No)	f. Telescope	Yes	(No)
c. Windshield	Yes	(No)	g. Theodolite	Yes	(No)
d. Window glass	Yes	(No)	(h.) Other	Naked eye only.	

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

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a. Sound No sound.

b. Color Very bright, being a reddish white then changed to a very dull white.

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

18. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
(b.) Like a bright star ✓
c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember

e. Other _____

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____.
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

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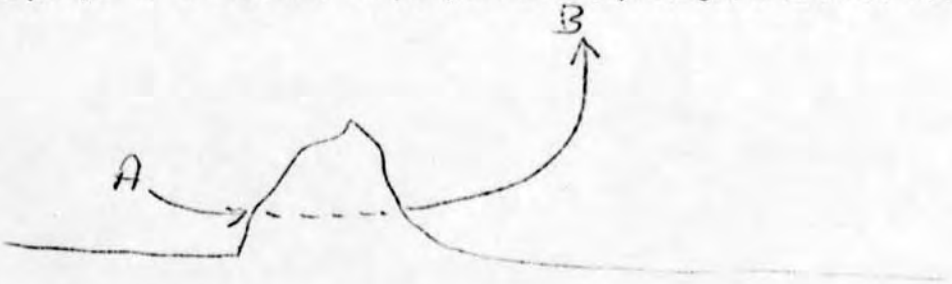
[redacted]

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.



Dropped behind hill

21. IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension.
_____ feet.

22. How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects *held in the hand* and at about arm's length?

(Circle One):

a. Head of a pin
b. Pea
c. Dime
d. Nickel
e. Quarter
f. Half dollar
g. Silver dollar
h. Baseball
(i) Grapefruit
j. Basketball
k. Other _____

22.1 *(Circle One* of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 22.

(a) Certain
b. Fairly certain
c. Not very sure
d. Uncertain

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? First dropped behind hill - reappeared, then faded out.

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

Material Unknown

25. Where were you located when you saw the object? *(Circle One):*

a. Inside a building
b. In a car
(c) Outdoors
d. In an airplane
e. At sea
f. Other _____

26. Were you *(Circle One)*

a. In the business section of a city?
b. In the residential section of a city?
c. In open countryside?
d. Flying near an airfield?
e. Flying over a city?
f. Flying over open country?
(g) Other Military Base

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

Guarding the back door to Operations - the object was very bright and at first I thought it was a star.

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
f. Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

28.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?
(Circle One) Yes No

29. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
(f) Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? *(Circle One)*

a. North
b. Northeast
c. East
d. Southeast
e. South
(f) Southwest
g. West
h. Northwest

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

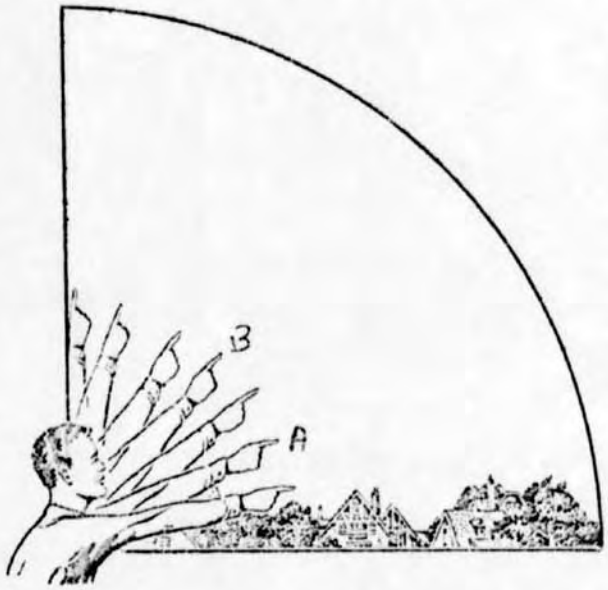
31.1 When it first appeared:
a. From true North 270 degrees.
b. From horizon _____ degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:
a. From true North 279 degrees.
b. From horizon _____ degrees.

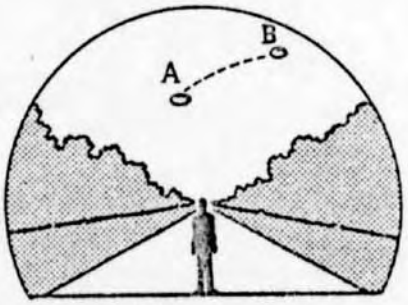
UNCLASSIFIED

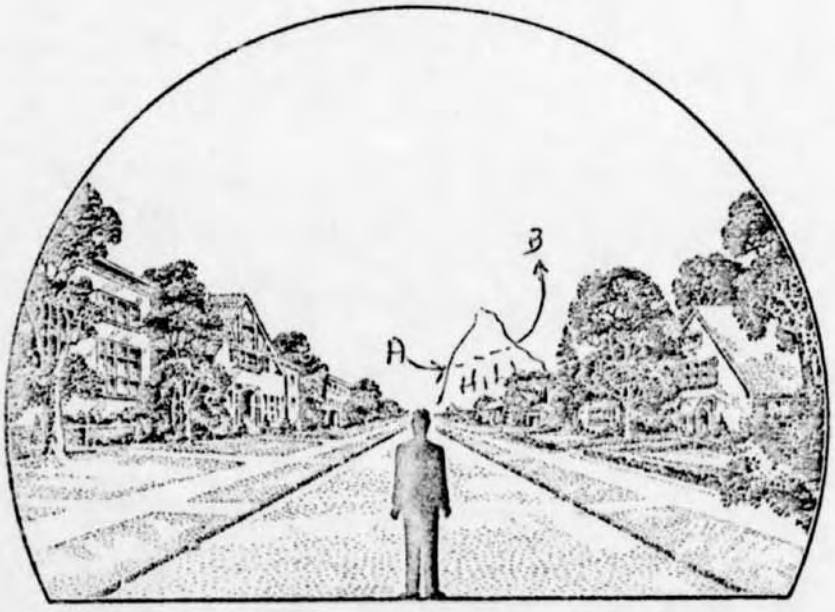
[redacted]

32. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *first* saw it. Place a "B" on the *same* curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you *last* saw it.



33. In the following larger sketch place an "A" at the position the object was when you *first* saw it, and a "B" at its position when you *last* saw it. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.





34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS *(Circle One)*

a. Clear sky
b. Hazy
(c) Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds
e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND *(Circle One)*

a. No wind
(b) Slight breeze
c. Strong wind
d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER *(Circle One)*

(a) Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

34.4 TEMPERATURE *(Circle One)*

a. Cold
(b) Cool
c. Warm
d. Hot
e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

26 (Day) January (Month) 1953 (Year)

36. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

36.2 Please list their names and addresses:

[redacted]
Continental Divide, New Mexico

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

[redacted]

39. Do you think you can estimate the *speed* of the object?

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(Circle One) (Yes) No

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? 12 - 15 m.p.h.

40. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) (Yes) No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? 9 miles feet.

41. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME [redacted] Last Name [redacted] First Name [redacted] Middle Name

ADDRESS [redacted] Street Continental Divide City Zone New Mexico State

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

What is your present job? Crew Chief in Operations

Age 24 Sex Male

Please indicate any special educational training that you have had.

a. Grade school 8 years
b. High school 4 years
c. College _____
d. Post graduate _____
e. e. Technical school Radar Operator
(Type) _____
f. Other special training _____

42. Date you completed this questionnaire: 5 Day February Month 1953 Year

/s/ Julian O. Dennis

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Glen D Parrish

GLEN D PARRISH
1st Lt., USAF
AO 2067339

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[redacted]

[redacted]

RADAR OBSERVATION DATA SHEET

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I. QUESTIONS REGARDING DETECTING RADAR EQUIPMENT

1. What type radar equipment is involved?

   AN/FPS-3

2. Has there been any recent maintenance difficulties? If so, describe.

   Negative

3. What type modulator (i.e., spark gap, hard tube, etc.) is used in the radar equipment?

   Hard tube

4. Was the AFC (automatic frequency control) circuit of the receiver operating properly?

   AFC was performing efficiently on "Manual" position.

5. Has interference from another radar set been observed recently, and are personnel familiar with the effects caused by an interfering signal?

   No interference, and personnel are familiar.

6. What type indicators, "A scope", "B scope", etc., were used to follow the target?

   PPI Scope

7. What was the radar scan rate?

   Five (5) RPM, 400 PRF

8. What was the approximate frequency of the transmitter?

   1290 MC

II. GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What were the general weather conditions at the time unidentified target was observed?

   High thin overcast and low broken overcast. Would have made it difficult for a Star

2. What weather data from nearby U.S. weather stations is available on temperature vs altitude, humidity vs altitude, and wind velocity vs altitude?

   Nearest weather station is Kirtland AF Base, New Mexico.

3. Was the target observed by any other nearby radar equipments? If so, give details.

   No

4. Are the operator and the supervisor familiar with the effects of anomalous (duct-effect) propagation as they pertain to this type radar?

   Yes

[redacted]

29

155-2556-A

(USE REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS REQUIRED)

5. Has anomalous propagation been observed to extend the range of ground clutter by this radar at this site, and did this condition exist during or near the time that unknown target was observed?

   Condition was not apparent at time of sighting.

6. What effects of rain storms and lightning have been observed on this radar?

   None

7. Were any checks made to determine if unknown target could have been one of our own aircraft?

   Yes, Negative Results.

8. Was any interception attempted? If so, give details.

   No

9. Was a visual and/or Auditory observation made simultaneously with scope observation? If so, give detailed description.

   Yes (See AF Form 112, IR-1-53W, 34th ADD - forwarded)

III. SPECIFIC TARGET QUESTIONS

1. Did any technical personnel observe the unknown target on the Radar Scope? Have they been questioned thoroughly? What was their opinion?

   No

2. Was a permanent record "track" made of the target positions as they appeared on the indicators? If so, attach to this report. (Plot on back of page 1.)

   No

3. At what range, azimuth, altitude, and time was the target observed?

   Range: 9 miles; Azimuth: 270°; Alt: 10 to 15,000 ft. (estimated)
   Time: 2115 MST, (26 Jan 53).

4. How did the target appear in size and shape as compared with conventional aircraft targets?

   Much larger and much brighter on scope.

5. Was the target of consistent size, or did it change rapidly?

   Consistent size at all time on scope.

6. Was the speed of the target constant or variable? Explain.

   Variable. 12 to 15 MPH.

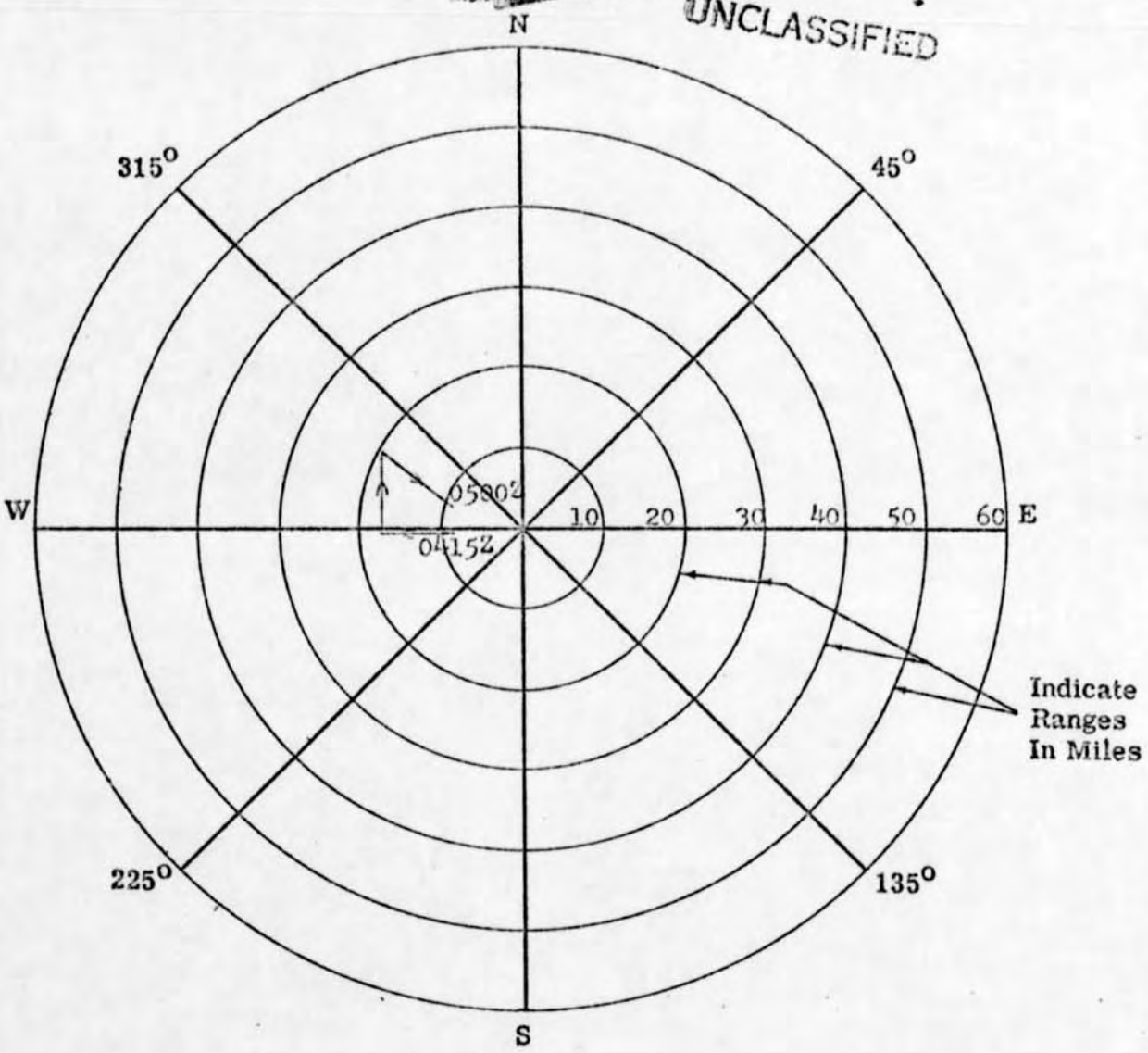
7. Did the target appear "fuzzy" or clear and sharp as compared with a known aircraft target?

   "Fuzzy"

8. What other (aircraft) targets were observed in the same general area, altitude, and time as that of the unknown target?

   Negative.

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED



INSTRUCTIONS: PLOT TRACK OF TARGET, INDICATE RANGE AND AZIMUTH. GIVE TIME AT START AND END OF TRACK.

[redacted]

30 [redacted]

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	3. SOURCE	
26 JANUARY 1953	CONTINENTAL DIVIDE, NEW MEXICO	AF PERSONNEL	
4. TIME Local 26/2115MST & 27/0415Z	5. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	6. SHAPE	7. COLOR
8. COURSE --	9. ALTITUDE	10. ANGULAR VELOCITY ____° per second	11. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No
12. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground-visual ground-radar	13. LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 45 minutes	14. MANEUVERS	

15. CONCLUSIONS

Ball shaped, intermingling white, red, green, object traveled slowly hovering at times at an estimated altitude of 10 to 12,000'. Manner of disappearance is similar to that of a light going out suddenly.

CONCLUSION: UNKNOWN

16. COMMENTS

1. Object was seen visually and on AC/W radar scope.
2. Radiosonde weather balloon launched at 0300Z.
3. Speed of object on radar 12 to 15 mph.
4. Electronics' opinion: Weather probably caused radar return.
5. Weather info from Asheville W.C. needed before final conclusions can be made. Requested but not received as of 2 Jul 53.

ATIC Form 329 (Rev 27 May 52)

[redacted]

S-2-12

Continantal Divide, New Mexico 26 January 1953

I. Description of Incident

On 26 January 1953 at 2115 MST Air Force personnel stationed at an AC&W station in this area observed an aerial phenomenon simultaneously by electronic and visual means. To the naked eye the object appeared as a very bright reddish-white object estimated to be 10 miles west of the radar site. The object passed behind a hill and then reappeared apparently heading in a northerly direction at a slow speed. The airman making this visual observation reported it to personnel manning the radar equipment. They stated that they had an unidentified blip on the radar scope, appearing west of the station approximately 9 miles away. The scope showed the object to be on a 270° azimuth at an altitude of 10-15,000' moving away from the site at 12-15 mph. It was eventually lost on radar at the 18 mile range. The object was under visual and radar observation intermittently for 45 minutes. The elevation of the station is 7,500' above sea level.

Weather at the time was characterized by a high thin overcast and low scattered clouds. Winds aloft were from 270° at 30 knots at 10-30,000'. An atmospheric inversion layer existed at 18,000' with the top at 21,000'.

II. Discussion of Incident

This is the most complete report ever received by ATIC on the sighting of an unidentified object. The intelligence officer of the 34th Air Division, ADC, is to be complimented on his initiative and complete covering of all the angles bearing on the observation. Moreover, the combination visual-electronic sighting is the best type of sighting to work with because it affords the most information.

The intelligence officer preparing the report checked on weather balloon releases in the area of observation as a possible answer to the sighting. It was found that a 9' radiosonde balloon released from Winslow, Arizona, would offer the only possibility. The unknown object was observed to move from east to west, against the prevailing winds aloft which rules out the balloon theory. Also the sighting time of 0415 Z is 1 hour and 15 minutes after the Winslow release and by that time it is probable that the radiosonde had burst at altitude long before.

The fact that the object was detected on radar and seen visually for so long a period of time eliminates the possibility of an astronomical solution, such as a star or fireball, and especially if both radar and eye were seeing the same object, it is unlikely that these objects would cause radar returns. Since the object was tracked at 12 to 15 mph, aircraft are also eliminated as a possibility.

ATIC electronics specialists advanced the theory that the slow speed and large visual radar size of the target make it appear that weather effects may be the cause of the electronic pick-up. However, the inversion layer at 18,000' appears to be too high to effect the radar which was tracking the object at 10 to 15,000'. The weather-effect explanation cannot, of course, account for the simultaneous visual sighting. There is a possibility which ATIC is now checking

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that the radar personnel may have been looking at the planet Venus, very low and bright on the western horizon at this time of year, and that the radar possibly encountered the aforementioned weather interference at the same time. This would require a high degree of coincidence, however, and the radar and visual sightings seem to coincide too exactly to give much weight to the theory that both were observing different objects.

Two other items added to the completeness of the report. ATIC supplied the reporting intelligence officer with a USAF Technical Information Sheet, or a visual questionnaire, and an Electronics Data Sheet covering the radar pick-up. Further analysis of this sighting awaits adiabatic weather charts for the date and area of sighting and until this information is received, this report is carried in Project Blue Book's files as an unknown.

III. Conclusion

Unknown